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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

CAMBODIA, LAOS, THAILAND AND VIET-NAM

Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

PLAN OF OPERATION

THE SAMBOR INVESTIGATION PROJECT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Contents

		Page	Para
I.	Introduction	1	1 - 5
II.	General description of the project	2	6 - 7
III.	Scope of work	2	9
IV.	Mapping of aerial photographs	4	10
V.	Privileges, immunities and facilities	4	11 - 21
VI.	Completion of the project	6	22
VII.	Signatures	7	23

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In 1960 the Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") requested the countries concerned to provide their positive assistance in promoting the surveys of the selected sites for early development, namely, Pa Mong, Sambor and Tonle Sap and further requested the Government of Japan to participate in the investigations on the Mekong main stream development project.

2. At the 17th plenary session of ECAFE held at New Delhi in March, 1961, the Government of the United States of America expressed her intention to carry out for herself the comprehensive survey of the Pa Mong project, and India declared to provide her assistance to the survey on Tonle Sap development project. At the 14th session of the Committee held in May, 1961, Japan was requested to undertake the investigation of the Sambor site.

3. Therefore, in accordance with this request the Government of Japan sent a preliminary investigation team consisting of fifteen specialists on economics and other fields in October, 1961, to conduct the reconnaissance survey at Sambor and to consult with the Committee and other agencies concerned. Further, in January, 1962, a technical survey team was dispatched there and engaged in works such as hydrologic survey, observation of water level, etc. along the proposed dam centre line of the site. It is expected that the report on the above preliminary investigations will be completed before long.

4. In March, 1962, the tentative interim report on the investigations was submitted to the 17th session of the Committee held in Tokyo and was accepted. At that session the Government of Japan stated its intention to undertake further investigation at Sambor in the dry-season during 1962-63, which is to form a part of the Sambor Comprehensive Development Investigation.

5. Under such circumstances, the Government of Japan entrusted the execution of the investigation to the Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency, which is a semi-governmental agency set up last June for these purposes.

The following is an outline of the Plan of Operation of the Sambor Development Investigation thus to be conducted under the cooperation of the Committee, the Government of Japan and other countries concerned.

II. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

6. The interim report of the preliminary survey carried out in 1961 suggests that a dam, approximately 29 km in crest length and 36 m in height from the bedrock, should be built at the site of the lower stream of Sambor Rapids supposing the high water level to be raised up to EL 40 m and further that spillways channels, power plants, lock-gates and others should be constructed as its appurtenances. After the completion of the first stage of construction, its maximum discharge will be 2,500 m3/sec (3,000 m3/sec in wet season), its maximum capacity, 720,000 kW, and its annual output, 4,6 billion kWh.

7. The cost of power generation at the Sambor Power Plant is estimated by the interim report to be about ¢. 0.4 - 0.5 per kWh. The power produced at the Sambor Power Plant will be served for the general use of the local people in Cambodia and Viet-Nam. However, after meeting the local requirements, the Sambor Power Plant is supposed to have still an abundant surplus of power to be distributed. In order to make use of this power, it is necessary to develop new industries. The said estimated cost of power might promote the development of these industries, among which aluminium refining will be most suitable and production of vinyl chloride and caustic soda also promising.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

8. The present Project (hereinafter referred to as "the Project) aims at the preparation of a comprehensive project report for establishing a development plan of Sambor, and for that purpose, on-the-spot investigation will be conducted on the basis of the following scope of work. However, this investigation shall form only a part of the comprehensive survey.

/ A.

A. Project Investigation

(1) Review of the results of preliminary survey by Japan, preliminary geological survey by Australia, hydrologic survey by the United States, etc.

(2) Profile and cross levelling of the proposed dam site at Sambor.

(3) Additional geological investigation of the proposed damsite, power plant site and quarry at Sambor.

(4) Material survey of quarry around the proposed dam site.

(5) Additional hydrologic survey for observation of water level, stream discharge, rainfall, evaporation, floating soil and sand, etc. of the proposed damsite.

(6) Reconnaissance of the proposed transmission line.

(7) Market survey for hydro-electricity to be produced at Sambor in Cambodia and Viet-Nam.

(8) Investigation for improving navigation facilities between Sambor and Stung Treng.

(9) Agricultural investigation concerning irrigation, productivity, etc. of the downstream area to Sambor.

B. Project Planning

(1) Compilation and analysis of data obtained from levelling, geological investigation, material survey and hydrologic survey.

(2) Alternative studies of the dam and appurtenant structures.

(3) Study of power consumption and agricultural and navigation improvement.

C. Preparation of an interim report

/ IV.

IV. MAPPING OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

9. The mapping of aerial photographs over the area of the proposed reservoir to be formed by the construction of the Sambor dam was already completed with the assistance of the Government of Canada, but a part of both sides of the area are not yet covered, which hinders the Japanese team from conducting a successful investigation of this project. Accordingly the Committee is requested to prepare maps of 1/20,000 (or 1/2,000 as required) as soon as possible by way of mapping aerial photographs over the above-mentioned area, approximately 121 square kilometers at a scale of 1/2,000 and 1,378 square kilometers at 1/20,000, as shown on the attached index map.

V. PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES AND FACILITIES

10. The Japanese members of the survey team to be organized for the Project (hereinafter referred to as "the team") shall be entitled to the following privileges and immunities:

(a) Immunity from legal process in respect of all acts performed by them in the execution of the Project;

(b) Immunity from national service obligations;

(c) Immunity from immigration restrictions;

(d) The privilege of bringing into the country reasonable amounts of foreign currency for the purpose of the Project or for personal use of such members, and of withdrawing any such amounts brought into the country, or in accordance with the relevant foreign exchange regulations, such amounts as may be earned therein by such members in the execution of the Project;

(e) The same repatriation facilities in the event of international crisis as diplomatic envoys; and

(f) Inviolability for all papers and documents relating to the Project.

11. The Government shall either exempt or bear the cost of any taxes, duties, fees or levies which may be imposed by it on the Team or its Japanese members in respect of:

/ (a)

(a) The salaries, wages or allowances earned by such members in the execution of the Project;

(b) Any equipment, materials and supplies brought into the country in connection with the project or which, after having been brought into the country, may be subsequently withdrawn therefrom; and

(c) Any property brought, including one privately owned automobile per person, by the Team or its members for their personnel use or consumption or which, after having been brought into the country, may subsequently be withdrawn therefrom upon departure of such members. If despite this paragraph import duties are collected, then the Government making the collection shall make an equivalent cash payments to the Team or person concerned.

12. The privileges and immunities (except for the immunity in paragraph 10 (b)) to which the Team and its personnel are entitled may be waived by the Government of Japan, where, in its opinion, such privileges and immunities would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the successful completion of the Project or to the interest of the Team.

13. In the preceding paragraphs of this chapter, "the Government" refers to either one or more of the Governments of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Viet-Nam to which the respective paragraphs may become applicable in their context during the course of the execution of the Project. Similarly "the country" refers to either one or more of the territories of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Viet-Nam.

14. Subject to a separate arrangement the Committee shall take necessary measures to make available to the Team a part of petroleum and other mineral oils gifted under the contribution of the Government of Iran.

15. The Committee and the Government of Cambodia shall take all necessary steps to make available to the Team, in time for the execution of the Project, the data, materials and reports on collateral investigations and studies being carried out at present or proposed to be carried out in the future, including maps and aerial photographs.

/ 16.

16. The Government of Cambodia shall designate one engineer and one administrative officer for primarily liaison purposes.

17. The Government of Cambodia shall provide ferry service and a jeep duly manned for the Team's investigation purpose in the said area. Another jeep shall be made available when required. The Government of Cambodia shall approve the use of dynamite by the Team in the course of investigation.

18. The Government of Cambodia shall assist in procuring the following personnel; to be paid by Japan:

(a) Two persons to engage in the water observation (for a year);
(b) Five drivers (for three months);
(c) Three interpreters (for three months).

19. The Government of Cambodia shall provide in the project area living and office accommodations capable of accommodating 20 persons for three months. In case difficulties arise in providing these living and office accommodations the Government of Cambodia will make available cash in an amount not to exceed Riels 150,000.

20. The Government of Viet-Nam shall designate one officer for one month for reconnaissance of routes of transmission line in Viet-Nam.

VI. COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT

21. The period required for the completion of the Project including the submission of the interim report is estimated at six months from the commencement of the work. This will, however, be affected to a certain extent by the progress of data collection.

/ VII.

VII. SIGNATURES

22. Agreed on behalf of the Parties by the undersigned:

Date: Vientiane, 11 January 1963

(Signed) Ho Kim Han
For Government of Cambodia

Date: Vientiane, 11 January 1963

(Signed) Phouangkeoh Phanareth
For Government of Laos

Date: Vientiane, 11 January 1963

(Signed) Boonrod Binson
For Government of Thailand

Date: Vientiane, 11 January 1963

(Signed) Pham-Minh-Duong
For Government of the Republic
of Viet-Nam

Date: Vientiane, 11 January 1963

(Signed) Keisuke Arita
For Government of Japan

Date: Vientiane, 11 January 1963

(Signed) C. Hart Schaaf
Executive Agent to the Committee
for Coordination of Investigations of
the Lower Mekong Basin